

11. PROFESSIONAL AND STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS

The following subsections describe some of the various organizations that create and maintain antenna and radio standards or are otherwise of interest to the law enforcement or corrections officials interested in learning about antennas.

Most of the descriptive text in these subsections is taken directly from the Web site listed for each subsection and edited slightly for format or clarity.



1-800-248-2742

<http://www.nlectc.org/>

The Justice Technology Information Network (JUSTNET) was created in 1995 at the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) National Center in Rockville, MD, and serves as a gateway to the products and services of the NLECTC System as well as other technology information and services of interest to the law enforcement and corrections communities. JUSTNET is a central element of the *National Institute of Justice* Office of Science and Technology's information collection and dissemination mission. Through JUSTNET, users have access to interactive bulletin boards on a variety of topics, a comprehensive database of law enforcement products and technologies, and NLECTC publications.



1-606-244-8182

<http://www.nastd.org>

The National Association of State Telecommunications Directors (NASTD) is a member-driven organization whose purpose is to advance and promote the effective use of telecommunications technology and services to improve the operation of State government.

NASTD members represent telecommunications professionals from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. territories, and the private sector. State members are responsible for the provision and management of State government communications facilities and systems for State agencies and other public entities including hospitals, prisons, colleges, and universities. These members also play a strategic role in planning and shaping their States' telecommunications infrastructures and policies. Corporate members represent companies that provide telecommunications technology services and equipment to State government.

NASTD was founded in 1978 and has been an affiliate of the Council of State Governments (CSG) since 1980, with its headquarters in Lexington, KY.



1-888-APCO-911

<http://www.apcointl.org/>

The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International, Inc. (APCO International), is the world's oldest and largest not-for-profit professional organization dedicated to the enhancement of public safety communications.

With more than 13 000 members around the world, APCO International exists to serve the people who manage, operate, maintain, and supply the communications systems used to safeguard the lives and property of citizens everywhere.

APCO members come from many public safety organizations, including:

- Law Enforcement Agencies.
- Emergency Medical Services.
- Fire Departments.
- Public Safety Departments.
- Colleges and Universities.
- Military Units.
- Manufacturers.

APCO's mission is to:

- Foster the development and progress of the art of public safety communications by means of research, planning, training, and education.
- Promote cooperation between towns, cities, counties, States, and Federal public safety agencies in the area of communications.
- Represent its members before communications regulatory agencies and policy making bodies as may be appropriate.
- Through its efforts strive toward the end that the safety of human life, the protection of property, and the civic welfare are benefitted to the utmost degree.
- Aid and assist in the rapid and accurate collection, exchange, and dissemination of information relating to emergencies and other vital public safety functions.



1-212-642-4900

<http://web.ansi.org/>

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has served in its capacity as administrator and coordinator of the United States private sector voluntary standardization system for 80 years.

Founded in 1918 by five engineering societies and three government agencies, the Institute remains a private, nonprofit membership organization supported by a diverse constituency of private and public sector organizations.

Throughout its history, the ANSI Federation has maintained as its primary goal the enhancement of global competitiveness of U.S. business and the American quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems and promoting their integrity. The Institute represents the interests of its nearly 1 000 company, organization, government agency, institutional, and international members through its office in New York City, and its headquarters in Washington, DC.

ANSI does not develop American National Standards (ANSs); rather, it facilitates development by establishing consensus among qualified groups. The Institute ensures that its guiding principles—consensus, due process, and openness—are followed by the more than 175 distinct entities currently accredited under one of the Federation's three methods of accreditation (organization, committee, or canvass). In 1999 alone, the number of American National Standards increased by nearly 5.5 % to a new total of 14 650. ANSI-accredited developers are committed to supporting the development of national and, in many cases, international standards, addressing the critical trends of technological innovation, marketplace globalization, and regulatory reform.



1-800-678-IEEE

<http://www.ieee.org/>

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is the world's largest technical professional society. Founded in 1884 by a handful of practitioners of the new electrical engineering discipline, today's Institute is comprised of more than 320 000 members who conduct and participate in its activities in 152 countries. The men and women of the IEEE are the technical and scientific professionals making the revolutionary engineering advances that are reshaping our world today.

The technical objectives of the IEEE focus on advancing the theory and practice of electrical, electronics, and computer engineering, and computer science. To realize these objectives, the IEEE sponsors technical conferences, symposia and local meetings worldwide; publishes nearly 25 % of the world's technical papers in electrical, electronics, and computer engineering; provides educational programs to keep its members' knowledge and expertise state-of-the-art. The purpose of all these activities is twofold: (1) to enhance the quality of life for all peoples through improved public awareness of the influences and applications of its technologies; and (2) to advance the standing of the engineering profession and its members.

The IEEE, through its members, provides leadership in areas ranging from aerospace, computers, and communications to biomedical technology, electric power, and consumer electronics. For the latest research and innovations in the many diverse fields of electrical and electronics engineering, industry and individuals look to the IEEE.



1-703-907-7500

<http://www.eia.org/>

For more than 70 years, the Electronics Industry Alliance (EIA) has been the primary trade organization representing the U.S. high technology community. EIA has created a host of activities to enhance the competitiveness of the American producer including such valuable services as technical standards development, market analysis, government relations, trade shows, and seminar programs.



1-703-907-7700

<http://www.tiaonline.org/>

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) is a full-service national trade organization with membership of 900 large and small companies that provide communications and information technology products, materials, systems, distribution services, and professional services in the United States and around the world. The association's member companies manufacture or supply virtually all of the products used in the modern communications network. TIA represents the telecommunications industry with its subsidiary, the MultiMedia Telecommunications Association (MMTA), in conjunction with the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA).

The TIA seeks to provide its members a forum for the examination of industry issues and information. The association serves as the voice of the manufacturers and suppliers of communications and information technology products on public policy and international issues affecting its membership. TIA supports and strives to further the growth of our economy, the progress of technology, and the betterment of humankind through improved communications. In 1924, a small group of suppliers to the independent telephone industry organized to plan an industry trade show. Later, that group became a committee of the United States Independent Telephone Association. In 1979, the groups split off as a separate affiliated association, the United States Telecommunications Suppliers Association (USTSA), and became one of the world's premier organizers of telecom exhibitions and seminars. TIA was formed in April 1988 after a merger of USTSA and the Information and Telecommunications Technologies Group of EIA. EIA began as the Radio Manufacturers Association (RMA) in 1924.

TIA is a member-driven organization. Thirty-one board members are selected from member companies to formulate policy, which is carried out by a staff of more than 50 in the Washington, DC area. There are six issue-oriented standing committees:

- Membership Scope and Development.
- International.
- Marketing and Trade Shows.
- Public Policy and Government Relations.
- Small Company.
- Technical.

Each committee addresses the subject areas of major concern to TIA members. Each committee is chaired by a board member.

TIA's five product-oriented divisions are:

- User Premises Equipment.
- Network Equipment.
- Wireless Communications.
- Fiber Optics.
- Satellite Communications.

Each division is concerned with legislative and regulatory issues of product manufacturers and prepares standards dealing with performance testing and compatibility.



1-800-565-PSWN

<http://www.pswn.gov/>

Everyone living within the United States expects government entities to respond, mitigate damage, and provide emergency assistance during disasters. Emergency workers are trained to respond to a variety of events, such as natural and technological disasters, terrorist actions, and criminal activities, as well as to conduct other life-saving activities such as search and rescue operations. To be effective before, during, and after their response, public safety officials, throughout all levels of government, must be able to communicate with each other. Currently, Federal, State, and local public safety entities compete for limited radio spectrum, have limited public safety budgets, and face challenges in keeping pace with advances in technology. Moreover, public safety officials operate separate tactical communications networks.

Upon these premises, PSWN's mission is to provide seamless, coordinated, and integrated public safety communications for the safe, effective, and efficient protection of life and property. PSWN's vision of improved communications is shared with local, State, and Federal agencies whose missions encompass the protection of life and property.